

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10-12, 15-17, 20, 21 and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over WO 97/10668 (hereinafter "WO'668"); and claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over WO'668 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,670 to Eguchi. For at least the following reasons, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action states that page 13, line 1 - page 14, line 19 and page 15, lines 18-35 of WO'668 disclose all the features of the transmission information attaching device of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25. Applicant respectfully submits that WO'668 merely discloses a directory 75 that represents telephone numbers and corresponding e-mail addresses which processor 33 uses to determine if a corresponding e-mail address is present in the directory when a telephone number is dialed by a user (page 12, line 33 - page 13, line 10). Then, when the processor 33 is to transmit an e-mail message, it connects to a service provider 18 (page 13, lines 11-36). Processor 33 then creates an e-mail message which includes a header comprising a source address 82 and a destination address 84 (page 14, lines 1-3). More particularly, processor 33 of WO'668 always attaches the header (i.e., attaches the header to every created e-mail message), and thus does not selectively or based on some information or condition attach the header. The created e-mail message along with the header comprising the source address 82 and the destination address 84 is sent along with the attached faxed image to the service provider 18 (page 14, line 1 - page 15, line 4).

Nowhere does WO'668 disclose, inter alia, a transmission information attaching device that attaches/does not attach the transmission information to the image information based on the address information stored in the storage device, as recited in claim 1. Similarly, nowhere does WO'668 disclose, inter alia, a transmission information attaching device that selectively

determines the attachment/non-attachment of the transmission information according to the address information, as recited in claims 6, 11 and 25. Furthermore, nowhere does WO'668 disclose, inter alia, a transmission information attaching device that attaches/does not attach the transmission information to part of the image information based on the setting made by the setting device and the changing device, as recited in claim 16, or a transmission information attaching device that attaches/does not attach the transmission information to be part of the image information based on the determination made by the determination device, where the determination device determines whether the address information of the receiver to whom the image information is transmitted is address information stored in the storage device or address information newly input via the address inputting device, as recited in claim 20. Accordingly, the transmission information attaching device recited in each of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25 attaches or refrains from attaching the transmission information based on at least one of the address information, or a setting, whereas WO'668 always attaches a header comprising a source address and a destination address when creating an e-mail message (page 14, lines 1-3).

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that WO'668 fails to disclose or suggest all the features recited in each of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25, including, inter alia, a transmission information attaching device as recited in each of claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25. Further, Applicant submits that Eguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of WO'668, as applied to independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicant submits that WO'668 alone, or in combination with Eguchi, fails to disclose or suggest all the features of claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25, as well as all the features of claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15, 17-19, 21-24, 26 and 27, which depend from claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 20 and 25, respectively. It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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